

In re Patent Application of:
GORTY
Serial No. 10/776,423
Filing Date: February 11, 2004

In the Claims:

Claims 1-55 (CANCELLED)

56. (NEW) A system for providing configuration data for remotely accessing electronic mail (email) on a plurality of source mailboxes, the system comprising:

- a user system comprising
 - a plurality of email clients for accessing the plurality of source mailboxes, and
 - a mailbox configuration data source having configuration parameters stored therein for configuring access to the plurality of source mailboxes from said plurality of email clients;
- a web service for allowing said user system to access the plurality of source mailboxes; and
- a configuration module for retrieving from said mailbox configuration data source, without user intervention, respective configuration parameters for at least one source mailbox, and for transmitting the respective configuration parameters to said web service to configure said web service also without user intervention;
- said configuration module comprising an import module having a plurality of mailbox import agents corresponding to ones of said plurality of email clients for retrieving, without user intervention, configuration parameters from said mailbox configuration data source and generating respective configuration data objects for each respective one of the plurality of source mailboxes.

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57. (NEW) The system according to Claim 56, wherein said web service comprises an internet service provider (ISP) that uses configuration parameters for accessing electronic mail from another internet service provider.

58. (NEW) The system according to Claim 56, wherein said plurality of source mailboxes comprises a plurality of interfaces that use the configuration parameters on-the-fly for accessing respective electronic mailboxes.

59. (NEW) The system according to Claim 56, and further comprising a web service interface module that formats the configuration data objects for submission to said web service.

60. (NEW) The system according to Claim 56, wherein said user system comprises one of a web browser and email client.

61. (NEW) The system according to Claim 56, wherein said user system comprises one of a personal computer and mobile communications device.

62. (NEW) The system according to Claim 56, wherein said configuration module is implemented as a component object module.

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63. (NEW) The system according to Claim 56, wherein said configuration module is implemented as an ActiveX control.

64. (NEW) A method for providing configuration data for remotely accessing electronic mail (email) on a plurality of source mailboxes, the method comprising:

 providing a user system comprising

 a plurality of email clients for accessing the plurality of source mailboxes, and

 a mailbox configuration data source having configuration parameters stored therein for configuring access to the plurality of source mailboxes from the plurality of email clients;

 configuring a web service to allow the user system to access the plurality of source mailboxes; and

 configuring a configuration module to retrieve from the mailbox configuration data source, without user intervention, respective configuration parameters for at least one source mailbox, and to transmit the respective configuration parameters to the web service to configure the web service also without user intervention;

 the configuration module comprising an import module having a plurality of mailbox import agents corresponding to ones of the plurality of email clients for retrieving, without user intervention, configuration parameters from the mailbox configuration data source and generating respective configuration data objects for each respective one of the plurality of source mailboxes.

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65. (NEW) The method according to Claim 64, wherein configuring the web service comprises configuring the web service as an internet service provider (ISP) and using configuration parameters for accessing electronic mail from another internet service provider.

66. (NEW) The method according to Claim 64, further comprising forming an interface that uses configuration parameters on-the-fly for accessing an electronic mailbox.

67. (NEW) The method according to Claim 64, further comprising formatting the configuration data objects for submission to the web service.

68. (NEW) The method according to Claim 64, wherein configuring the configuration module comprises implementing the configuration module as a component object module.

69. (NEW) The method according to Claim 64, wherein configuring the configuration module comprises implementing the configuration module as an ActiveX control.